



TYPE OF HOMEWORK

Like daily classroom activities, homework assignments also need to be planned.

When teachers assign homework, the question they should ask themselves is what they expect a student to gain from the experience.

Different homework can be assigned to different groups of students in a class.

The teachers can make mix of the following modes of assigning homework:

- Worksheets
- Textbook and questions
- Essays/writing assignments
- Problem solving
- Independent projects
- Reading and research

- Utilize “Ten Minute Rule - 10 minutes multiplied by the student's grade level per night.
- In preschool, homework is most effective when it does not exceed 10-20 minutes each day
- In grades 3-6, homework should be 30-60 minutes a day.

AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK

The amount and type of homework should depend on their developmental level and the quality of their support at home. Different homework can be assigned to different groups.

HOW TO ASSIGN HOMEWORK?

- Writing instructions on the board
- Allocate homework as part of a course requirement
- Two step strategy: First part in the classroom by discussion; and second part may be assigned as homework.

Following points should be kept in mind

- It should not be replica of the work done in class
- Can be completed successfully. Required information and material is easily available.
- Interesting work; and requires application of skills

CHECKING OF HOMEWORK

Here are some techniques that can be adopted to check the student homework:

- Class discussion on homework
- Grade with comments.
- Students correct their own work during the class
- Teacher checks the work and returns the notebooks to the students

Students should receive quick feedback on completed assignments

It is the duty of the teacher to return a properly checked homework to the students and follow up.

SOME SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR ASSIGNING HOMEWORK

Languages

For languages, helping students improve their grammar skills and further their vocabulary and spelling practice through the use of educational games becomes a positive experience.

It is best to break down a writing assignment in two stages. First stage should be the brainstorming session in the class. During the brainstorming session whole class will work and as a group create the introductory paragraph. Then in the second stage the students will complete the remaining assignment at home.

Sciences

Drawing and labeling of diagrams. Comparing and contrasting the characteristics. Objective type items to reinforce the concepts. Simple observation activities and recording the results. Reading some information and recording the results.

Homework loses its importance due to following reasons

- If homework is the replica of the work done in the class.
- If teachers expect students to complete assignments the teachers were not able to cover in class.

CONCLUSION

While formulating homework policy, do remember that there is a positive correlation between the amount of homework done and the student achievement. But too much homework can be counterproductive and can cause kids to “burn out”.